

Road Expert for Kansas

Last winter the legislature turned down a bill to create a State highway engineer, but not because the members were not interested in having good roads. The original bill contained some provisions that were not approved, and they were rejected and some good amendments were added and the bill passed the House. It contained a clause for licensing automobiles, the license fee to go to the support of the highway engineer and his work. In the Senate this was stricken out and the bill was sent back to the House, authorizing the Board of Regents of the Agricultural College to employ a highway engineer, defining his duties, etc., but making no appropriation. The House was somewhat displeased because the automobile clause was stricken out, and the bill failed to pass as amended.

The legislature gave to the Extension Department of the Agricultural College an appropriation of \$52,500 for two years, and the Regents decided to elect an expert engineer who would perform practically all the duties prescribed in the law for a State highway engineer. Mr. W. S. Gearhart, assistant to the state highway commission of Illinois, was elected to this position in the Extension Department, his duties to begin September 1, 1909. Mr. Gearhart comes highly recommended by the state highway engineers of Minnesota and Illinois, has had several years experience in railroad and highway engineering, and has for three years had charge of some of the most important road and bridge work in Illinois.

Mr. Gearhart will belong to the Institute and Extension Department of which J. H. Miller is superintendent, and his duties will be about as follows: From September 1 to October 20 he will be subject to calls from the county commissioners, city councils, county engineers, and others seeking advice in the matter of bridges and roads. He will go anywhere in the State to meet with these officers, to advise as to work, will make plans and specifications for roads and bridges, will assist in starting work, letting contracts, inspecting finished jobs, etc. There will be no charge for his time and services, but officers asking for such visits will be expected to meet the actual traveling and hotel expenses. After a time many visits will be made on circuits, and then each county or city will pay only its due share of the expense of the trip. From October 20 to December 20 Mr. Gearhart will attend farmers' institutes (principally in Eastern Kansas this fall), lecturing on road questions and holding special meetings at every point for road overseers and trustees. While on these circuits he will be ready to meet with county commissioners relative to bridge and road work. He will attend institutes also during January and February, and then from March to November he will devote his whole time to field work in the counties and the building of bridges and roads. He will also offer to hold district conferences with county surveyors of eight or ten counties, these conferences to last two or three days at a place. Road material will be tested at the College and plans for specifications for roads and bridges will be made if desired and work inspected during progress. In short, this highway engineer for the Institute and Extension Department of the Agricultural College will be ready to serve the people in Kansas in the matter of roads and bridges as the institute specialists in dairying, horticulture and farm management will be ready to serve those interests. All correspondence relative to this work should be addressed to J. H. Miller, superintendent Extension Department, Manhattan.

T. J. Wells and wife of Savannah, Mo., are here visiting their son, C. R. Wells of the Brinkman Bank.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Grizzell and Emory Grizzell, of Clifton, returned to their home the first of the week after a pleasant visit here with friends and relatives.

When you hear a man sneering at the local papers you can safely bet he don't spend his time making them better. They who don't see a benefit arising to a town from its newspapers haven't as much sense as a dove oyster, and are about as much value to a town as a ten year old delinquent. —Horton Headlight.

Forests Are Favored by the Tariff

The extraordinary session of congress, after five months of wrangling and at an estimated cost to the American people of about \$500,000, resulted in a victory of the privileged class. The Republican party in its platform and the Republican candidate in his speeches promised a reduction of the tariff burden.

The tariff bill signed by the president, falls far short of the pledges made by the party, and is full of those iniquitous bargains which in the dark which have come to make protection synonymous with fraud. Through the metaphysical subtlety, the immense labyrinth of the tariff, with its ad valorem and specific duties, intricate schedules and fathomless classifications, the unfortunate masses find themselves "no end in wandering mazes lost."

The people are not versed in politics and statecraft. They cannot see through the flimsy fallacies of protection arguments. To a large number the protectionist appears with the halo of his own creation, as the friend of the poor and struggling man, and the benefactor of "infant industries."

However, the people are beginning to be aroused by the contemptuous disregard of the needs and demands of the whole country by the Republican congress. They regard the bill enacted as giving the lie to pledges and full of swindles which cannot be explained by the false parade of meaningless figures.

In the words of Judge Parker, "their arguments demonstrate that the purpose of the tariff plank was to cheat and defraud the voter, and the action of the majority in congress makes them parties to the fraud, in that they sought to consummate it." Schiller's hero speaks of the project of giants and the performance of insects; the giants would have to be very gigantic and the insects very tiny, which would afford correct comparative illustration of promises the Republican party made as to tariff revision and the performance actually made.

Well might the people say as did Sheridan to a servant who dropped a plate-warmer with a crash, but hastened to assure his master that nothing was broken: "Do you mean to tell me," demanded Sheridan, "that you made all that noise for nothing?"

The Payne-Aldrich bill, as shown by the table prepared by tariff experts, revises the tariff upward, and exceeds the old Dingley act nearly 2 per cent, and when the maximum goes in to effect March 31, 1910, the average rate will be about 27 per cent higher than the average of the Dingley bill.

The taxes on clothing are wickedly made higher. The Wilson bill sought bravely to do making wool free, and woolen clothing cheaper, but the Dingley law put back the highly taxed wool and woolens, and it is left untouched in the present bill. The duties on cotton goods are increased, which experts in the cotton business show to run from 8 to 47 per cent.

The wool and cotton schedules are absolutely indefensible. Nothing can be more certain than that these duties come under the head of those rates which, the president said were "excessive," and therefore could be cut down without injuring any industry. These wool and woolen schedules are designed to permit the woolen trust to plunder the public, and these millions of plundered dollars will be transferred from the people to the trust, without a cent of expense or a reasonable plea. The only thing considered in formulating the cotton schedule was the greed of the cotton manufacturer of New England. The tax was taken off hides, but the duty is still retained upon the finished leather commodities and upon the sole leather suitcase that the American citizen buys. Free hides are a delusion; they may give the man a delusion; they may give the man a half on a pair, but the man who wears them will get nothing.

Ira D. Brougher was in Topeka this week attending a meeting of the G. A. R.

Mrs. Sam Whitsel came in from Waynoka, Okla., last week for a visit with relatives and friends. She came up to get some of her household goods and will return to Waynoka in a few days where they will go to housekeeping.

Ellinwood From the Leader.

Joe Sprinker was a business visitor at Hutchinson last Friday.

Ed Schroeder visited with his brother in Chase last Friday.

Mrs. Geo. Jackson is visiting friends at Hutchinson this week.

Miss Juanita O'Brien of Great Bend visited Ellinwood friends Sunday.

Mrs. Mary Keck returned from her visit with her sister, Mrs. Jochem at Offerle Saturday night.

Miss Lenora Jackson went to Hutchinson yesterday to visit friends the balance of the week.

Mrs. John Wolf and Mrs. Fred Wolf returned from their stay at Manitou, Colorado last week.

Henry Schunemann left last week for a trip through Texas. We understand that he has gone there to look for a location, to go into business.

J. W. A. Cooke was up from Hutchinson between trains Sunday. He has a farm for sale near Raymond and was up to show it to a prospective buyer.

The Misses Mildred and Lois Bockemuhl arrived here from Kansas City the first of the week to make their home with their grandmother and to attend school.

Mrs. Conry returned from the hospital in Great Bend Sunday afternoon. She has so far recovered from her injuries that she has been able to get around with the aid of crutches.

The Elks Lodge of Hutchinson and Kansas City sent a lot of nice flowers to Geo. Heim and Will at a last week for what the boys are very thankful.

John Dick and wife were called to Milwaukee, Wis., last Friday, on account of the death of Mrs. Dick's sister. They left on No. 8. The funeral services were held there Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. John Christoph returned from Spearville Wednesday, where they have been visiting a few days and attending the wedding of Mrs. Christoph's brother, Mr. Leo A. Dangler to Miss Beatrice Strecker.

Will Kienle and family returned to their home in Ottawa Monday morning after a week's visit with Mr. Kienle's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Kienle. They will stop off at Hutchinson and take in the state fair for a few days before returning home.

Wallace Bummert took the Selden car that was smashed up in the wreck at Hutchinson Sunday, where he turned the car over to the state agent. The Selden Company will replace this car with a new sample car which will be here in a few days direct from the factory.

J. J. Klein, Jake Hahn, Bernhard Krampe and Mr. Duesser returned from Chicago last Friday morning where they had been as delegates to the national reunion of the Militair Verein of America. They all report a good time and say the old German soldiers fairly made Chicago hum. On their way back home they all stopped and visited friends in Kansas City.

During the storm Sunday evening a large number of limbs were blown from trees and small sheds turned over. The grand stand at the ball park was blown down and thrown across the street north of the ball park so that the street was impassable all day Monday. It was one of the severest storms we had this season. The lightning struck the home of Matt Dick, but did no further damage than to put the telephone out of commission and tear off a small strip of paper in the dining room.

The condition of Wm. Klein, who was injured in the automobile accident on Labor Day, has not changed very much since our last issue. Mr. Klein, although still in an unconscious condition, is gaining strength physically. For a few days after the accident, his mind seemed to be perfectly clear, but the last few days his mind is a blank. The physicians in charge wish to keep his quiet as possible, and no one is allowed to see him at present. There are still some hopes for his recovery, but the chances look mighty slim.

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Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Weirick, have moved into the L. C. Miller property on Park avenue.

Mrs. Chas. Russ, of Lyons who has been the guest of Rev. and Mrs. Geo. Bruner returned to her home Monday.

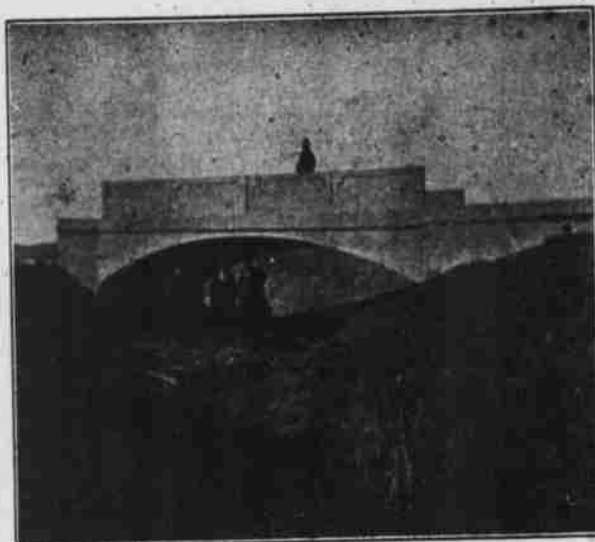
Mrs. Sam Maher has returned to her home in Kansas City after an extended visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. Strobel.

Mr. and Mrs. Marte Swift were Sunday visitors in Hutchinson.

Mrs. A. L. Holmes, of Lyons, visited her son, Hugh Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Brun, of Fort Smith, Ark., returned to their home Monday after a pleasant visit with Mrs. Brun's sister, Mrs. Nell Livingston and Mrs. J. T. Omer.

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